**Unit # 1 Title:** How Do the Pieces Fit?

**Lesson Title:** If the Career Fits, Explore It! (Part 2)

Lesson: 2 of 3

**Grade Level:** 7

**Length of Lesson:** 50 minutes

#### Missouri Comprehensive School Counseling Big Idea:

CD.7: Applying Career Exploration and Planning Skills in the Achievement of Life Career Goals.

CD.8: Knowing Where and How to Obtain Information About the World of Work and Post-Secondary Training/Education.

#### **Grade Level Expectations (GLEs):**

- CD.7.A.07: Use current interests, strengths, and limitations to guide career exploration and educational planning.
- CD.7.B.07: Recognize occupations and careers as they relate to career paths and personal interests and aptitudes.
- CD.8.A.07: Utilize career and educational information to explore career paths of interest.
- CD.8.B.07: Utilize a variety of resources to obtain information about the levels of training and education required for various occupations.

#### American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Mindsets and Behaviors:

Career Development

Materials (include activity sheets and/ or supporting resources)

Completed career interest inventory (See Lesson 1)

Career information resources: Print (e.g., Occupational Outlook Handbook) and electronic

Activity Sheets: Who I Am..., Researching a Career (optional)

#### Show Me Standards: Performance Goals (check one or more that apply)

	Goal 1: gather, analyze and apply information and ideas
X	2. Conduct research to answer questions and evaluate information and ideas.
	6. Discover and evaluate written, visual and oral presentations and works.
	Goal 2: communicate effectively within and beyond the classroom
	Goal 3: recognize and solve problems
	Goal 4: make decisions and act as responsible members of society
X	1. Explain reasoning and identify information used to support decisions.
	8. Explore, prepare for and seek educational and job opportunities.

# This lesson supports the development of skills in the following academic content areas: Academic Content Area(s) Specific Skill(s)

		F (v)
X	Communication Arts	Reading and writing; compare and contrast; research

X	Mathematics	Data analysis
	Social Studies	
X	Science	Scientific inquiry
	Health/Physical Education	
	Fine Arts	

## **Enduring Life Skill(s)**

	Perseverance		Integrity	X	Problem Solving
X	Courage		Compassion		Tolerance
	Respect	X	Goal Setting		

### **Lesson Measurable Learning Objectives:**

The student will research three possible careers and choose one for further investigation.

## **Lesson Formative Assessment (acceptable evidence):**

Assessment should relate to the performance outcome for goals, objectives and GLEs. Assessment can be question answer, performance activity, etc.

Students will choose a career of interest to research.

# **Lesson Preparation**

#### **Essential Questions:**

How do career interest inventories affect career choices?

**Engagement (Hook):** Instructor proclaims, "Tomorrow's the day!"

#### **Procedures:**

# **Instructor Procedures/Instructional Strategies:**

- 1. Say to students: You have to get a job by noon tomorrow!! The magic is ... you have the ability get the job of your dreams ... a job that will allow you to be yourself!! What will it be? You will use that job as you review the results of the interest inventory you completed during the last guidance lesson.
- 2. Return students' career interest inventory results. Allow time for the students to review the information. Stress the limitations of individual results:
  - Do your results reflect you?
  - How do your results fit with the job you identified at the beginning of this lesson?
  - The person who "takes" an interest inventory must use the results (not let the results use them) with information they know to be true about themselves (e.g., "The truth is, I made a design when I darkened the bubbles—and have no idea what the question asked.").
- 3. Review career paths and the attributes of those individuals who work in each. Compare the results of their interest inventories, the careers in each career path and the job they identified step 1 above. Is there a fit? Would you still choose the job you chose at the beginning of this lesson? Would you like to take the interest inventory again?
- 4. Provide instructions for the *Who I Am*... activity sheet and have students complete it by marking an X in the boxes that are like them.

**NOTE:** Students may be unfamiliar with the vocabulary on this activity sheet. The

#### Student Involvement/Instructional Activities:

1. Students will identify a job.

2. Students will review and reflect honestly on their individual results and consider the results in relation to the job identified above. They will ask clarifying questions.

3. Students will engage in a comparison of the career paths, workers, and the results of the interest inventories ...in light of the job they identified earlier in this lesson.

4. Review the *Who I Am*... activity sheet and ask clarifying questions.

counselor may choose to read the items and offer explanation as questions arise.

- 5. Collect the completed activity sheets. Tell students that during the next lesson, they will be using the results and that between now and the next lesson they will be discovering more about a specific occupation.
- 6. Explain that students are to research at least three occupations that are in the areas of high interest for them. Encourage students to investigate any career titles that are not familiar to them. Using one or more resources, students will research three careers of interest. From those three options, students will choose one that they will address when doing their reality check during the next lesson, based on the *Who I Am...* activity sheet. While students are investigating a specific career, they should consider which career path that occupation fits into.
- 7. Help students explore the career information resources available to them on the internet, in the counselor's office, in the school library.

- 5. Complete Step 1 of "*Who I Am* ... activity sheet; give to counselor after completing.
- 6. Students will research three possible careers based on career inventory results, choosing one that they will focus on for further investigation. Students will use highlighters to mark information about the career they have chosen, such as salary, working conditions, location, tasks and responsibilities, working alone or with others. (During the next lesson, they will be using the information gained from their career research to complete Step 2 of the *Who I Am* ... activity sheet.
- 7. Students may use information downloaded from an online source, or if they are unable to print a hard copy of their career information from an online source, they can use the activity sheet *Researching a Career* to record information they find during the research they conduct.

#### **Teacher Follow-Up Activities**

Students post careers they investigated on a classroom career path chart.

Counselor reflection notes (completed after the lesson)						
				,		

# **Activity Sheet: Researching a Career**

Name:	Grade:
Career:	
Career path:	
Average salary/wage: Hours/work days:	:
Describe work and working conditions:	
High school courses that will help you prepare for this job:	
Education or training needed beyond high school to prepare you for this	s job:

Adapted from Missouri Guidance The Box, 1998.

# Activity Sheet: Who I Am ......

Name:			_ Grade: _	
A career I am considering: _				
Career path:				
Step 1 Directions: Place an X in	front of the staten	nents that reflect your i	nterests, a	bilities, and talents.
High salary (over \$50,000)	Working i	in a wet place		Working in a safe place
Middle income (\$20,000 to \$50,000)	Working i surroundi	in some hazardous ings		Working at the same location all day
Low income (under \$20,000)	Pleasant	working conditions		Working inside
Staying clean	Working of	outside		Getting dirty
Working in a factory	Working i	in a rural setting		Working in many areas
Working in a store	Working i	in an office		Traveling as part of the job
Working in a noisy place	Working v	with other people		Working in a quiet place
Working in heat	Planning	your own work		Working alone
Working in cold		ork that provides a		Working in air conditioning
Working in a dry place	Doing the	e same task each day		Having a high level of responsibility
Following orders	Spending family	lots of time with your		Doing different tasks every day
Working a seasonal job	Being you	ur own boss		Having vacation time
Working for someone else	Working s	short hours		Having flexible hours
Performing mental, rather than physical, tasks	Working a	a regular 40-hour week		Having respect in the community
Working with details	Working v	with tools		Performing physical, rather than mental, tasks

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Having good fringe benefits	Manufacturing a product	Performing a service
Working while standing	Working while sitting	Helping people
Doing work that requires a great deal of reading and writing	Competing with others	Working in an expanding career area
Motivating others	Influencing others	Working in a city
Working in the suburbs	Supervising others	Making decisions on the job
Working in a declining career area	No high school diploma or GED required	Social skills required
Listening skills required	Following directions carefully	Trade or technical school required
Working with a chance for advancement	Advanced college degree required	Using writing skills
Using speaking skills	Using reading skills	On-the-job training required
Apprenticeship offered	License required	Memory skills required
Working as a member of a team	Good grooming required	Using science skills
Advanced math skills required	Basic math skills required	Union membership required
Typing skills required	Special skills required	College degree required
Social studies skills required	Good manners required	Working by myself

<u>Step 2</u> Directions: Place an O in front of the statements that are true for the career you researched.

Look closely at your responses. If there are both X's and O's in front of each of the statements, the career you are considering should appeal to you. If many of the X's (true for <u>you</u>) and O's (true for the career you researched) are not beside the same statements, you may need to rethink your reasons for considering this career as a potential career choice.

Adapted from Missouri Guidance The Box, 1998.